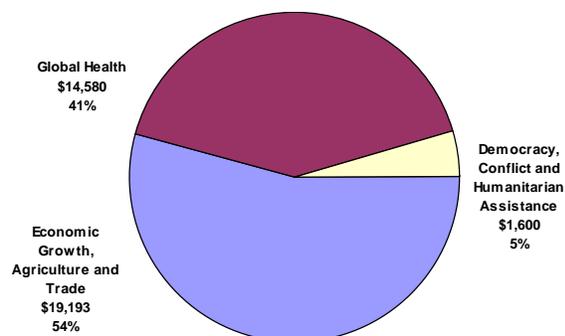
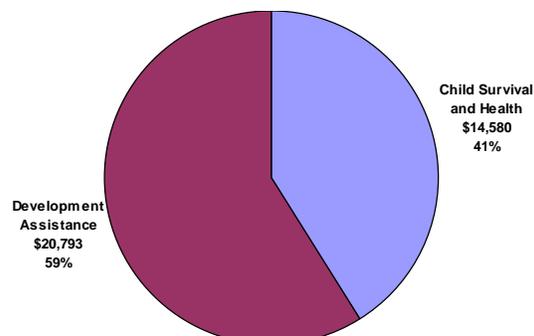


Mali

FY 2006 Assistance by Sector



FY 2006 Assistance by Account

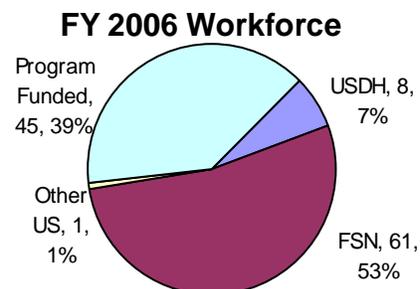


Objectives and Budget

Objective	SO Number	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
High Impact Health Services	688-006	13,550	14,838	14,230
Improving Quality of Basic Education	688-007	6,155	5,301	4,261
Shared Governance Through Decentralization	688-008	4,141	3,146	3,550
Accelerated Economic Growth	688-009	14,296	10,228	12,762
Communications for Development	688-010	1,400	806	570
Total (in thousands of dollars)		39,542	34,319	35,373

Administrative Expenses and Workforce

Administrative Expenses	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Mission Allocation	4,305	4,005	4,105
USDH Salaries & Benefits	1,367	1,060	1,083
Program Funds	2,709	2,709	2,171
Total (in thousands of dollars)	8,381	7,774	7,359



Mission Director: Pam White

Mali

The Development Challenge: Mali is a stable, extremely poor but democratic country that is a strong U.S. ally in the war against terrorism. Overall, 2004 was a year of mixed fortune for Mali. The country was selected as a Millennium Challenge Account eligible country reflecting the tremendous strides it has made toward ruling justly, promoting economic freedom and investing in its people. Successful municipal elections held in May 2004 boosted Mali's credentials as a stable democracy and underlined its commitment to deepening its far-reaching decentralization processes. For the first time in Malian history, women were significantly represented on the ballot. As a result of a reduction in the country's debt burden afforded by the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, the Government has increased spending on education and health to about 30.1% and 10.6%, respectively, of the national budget. The Government has also been pursuing efforts to improve social conditions by providing 1,500 affordable low-income housing units in urban areas and launching a presidential initiative to create employment for young people. Despite such efforts, Mali still suffers from extremely low indicators of social well-being. According to the United Nations Development Program's 2004 Human Development Report, Mali ranks as one of the least developed countries in the world, 174 out of 177. During the second half of 2004, the largely agriculture-dependent economy was severely jolted by an invasion of desert locusts that wreaked havoc throughout the Sahel. According to a Food and Agriculture Organization/World Food Program assessment, the insects could destroy as much as 10% of the annual cereal output and significantly damage pastures. Nonetheless, this outcome is considerably better than what was expected at the peak of the crisis in September. A premature end to the rainy season further reduced crop yields. Economic growth in Mali was also negatively affected by an unstable situation in neighboring Côte d'Ivoire, high oil prices, and lower-than-expected gold production.

Mali's formal economy is dominated by three commodities, gold, cotton and livestock, making it extremely vulnerable to price fluctuations and unrest in the region. The current instability in Côte d'Ivoire, Mali's biggest trading partner and a major source of remittances, continues to weigh heavily on the economy. The cost of transportation has increased by 20-30%, despite recent improvements in rail and road routes notably via Senegal and Guinea, and diversification of trade through Ghana and Togo. Steadily rising international petroleum prices have also negatively affected landlocked Mali's trade and imposed a significant cost on the domestic economy. The GDP growth rate for 2004 is now expected to be 1.5% compared to an initial projection of 4.7% and 7.1% realized in 2003. Mali's commitment to a market-based economy is widely acknowledged: it has removed price controls on most goods except for cotton, electricity, water and telecommunications; lifted tariff and non-tariff trade barriers, simplified the regulatory regime and harmonized business laws with neighbors; privatized state-owned firms and liberalized the financial sector. Nonetheless, the high cost of utilities, weak technical and managerial skills, lack of infrastructure, and corruption hinder progress. Private investors are increasingly taking note of Mali's potential, as reflected by the 3% increase in foreign direct investment in the last year. In 2004, a number of new enterprises began operating in the petrochemical, pharmaceutical, animal feed and cotton ginning sectors, developments which augur well for the eventual diversification of the still-narrow economic base. In 2005, South Africa is expected to overtake France as the leading source of foreign investment in Mali largely due to its participation in a \$216 million investment in the sugar sector. China's growing commercial portfolio focuses on the textile industry, large construction projects undertaken through joint venture companies, and an investment center. In addition, foreign interest in gold mining remains strong and petroleum exploration efforts are underway.

United States commercial engagement with Mali remains limited. Mali benefits from the African Growth and Opportunity Act under which it has begun exporting yarn to Mauritius to be made into clothing for the U.S. market. The country's fledgling textile industry is a potential source of product as well as a market for U.S. equipment. On the security front, Mali is a potential breeding ground for fundamentalism and possible terrorist networks, particularly in the often conflict-laden northern parts of Mali. Nevertheless, the Government remains a firm ally in the war on terrorism and participates in the Pan Sahel Initiative.

The USAID Program: USAID continues to pursue the joint State Department and USAID goals of democracy and human rights, economic prosperity and security, social and environmental issues, and humanitarian response, as well as management and organizational excellence. USAID will use FY 2005

funds to increase people's incomes and well-being, improve their dismal health and education status, and provide tools to govern effectively. Programs are geographically focused and are being increasingly coordinated with other United States Government (USG) agencies and donors. Cross-cutting activities target gender, HIV/AIDS and the creation of integrated development messages, USAID led the USG's quick response to the locust invasion and was the first major bilateral donor to respond by releasing more than one million dollars in emergency assistance which served to catalyze contributions from the rest of the donor community thereby helping to avert a major food crisis.

USAID seeks to employ innovative mechanisms wherever possible. The Global Development Alliance (GDA) approach has been used to develop a partnership with Mali's national Agricultural Research Institute and a private U.S. company that is on the brink of securing \$216 million of investment financing for the construction of a sugar processing plant and the creation of up to 6,000 new jobs. A new GDA partnership will bring resources and know-how into the education sector in some of the country's most remote areas; another GDA partnership formed with the Carter Center will work with the Government and civil society to strengthen the identification of priority poverty reduction policies and resource needs.

Other Program Elements: Other USAID programs with activities in Mali that complement USAID's five strategic/special objectives. Among the most important are several grants for child survival activities implemented in Mali and/or regionally. Other noteworthy programs active in the country include: support for the National Economic Research Institute; the Goundam Food Security Initiative, which addresses food security risks in northern Mali using P.L. 480 Title II resources; Collaborative Research Support Programs which focus on a number of food crops, soils, integrated pest management and natural resource management; improvement of the quality and effectiveness of information and response planning systems through the Famine Early Warning System Network; support for international agricultural research centers to develop and disseminate improved varieties and technologies for crops such as rice, corn, sorghum, and millet, as well as build capacity and networking for government researchers and farmers; and the West Africa Regional Program that provides funding to a number of public and private sector regional organizations on region-wide issues of economic integration, population, health, and nutrition; food security, the environment, and natural resources management; and conflict prevention. The Africa Bureau's Conflict Fund supports conflict mitigation and management activities in northern Mali.

Other Donors: France and the United States are Mali's first and second largest bilateral partners respectively. Other significant bilateral programs include Canada, Germany, and Japan. Direct bilateral budgetary support is provided by France, Canada, the Netherlands, Sweden, and Switzerland. South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Libya, and Algeria also have bilateral programs. Bilateral assistance is channeled to: infrastructure construction, decentralization, the cotton sector, education, health, the judiciary, microfinance, the Niger River, and energy. The World Bank is involved in rural development, budget support, health, education and democratic governance. The European Union, the African Development Bank and the West African Development Bank are engaged in road construction, rural development and budget support. The United Nations agencies are active in health, education and governance, and the World Food Program works in the areas of education, health, nutrition, and food security. Donor coordination is strongest with respect to the financing of the ten-year education and health sector development plans.

Mali
PROGRAM SUMMARY

(in thousands of dollars)

Accounts	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Current	FY 2006 Request
Child Survival and Health Programs Fund	13,821	14,200	15,755	14,580
Development Assistance	26,581	25,267	18,564	20,793
Economic Support Fund	410	75	0	0
Total Program Funds	40,812	39,542	34,319	35,373

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SUMMARY

688-006 High Impact Health Services				
CSH	13,771	13,550	14,838	14,230
DA	200	0	0	0
688-007 Improving Quality of Basic Education				
DA	7,150	6,155	5,301	4,261
ESF	50	0	0	0
688-008 Shared Governance Through Decentralization				
CSH	0	300	500	200
DA	4,692	3,841	2,646	3,350
ESF	300	0	0	0
688-009 Accelerated Economic Growth				
DA	13,289	14,221	10,228	12,762
ESF	60	75	0	0
688-010 Communications for Development				
CSH	50	350	417	150
DA	1,250	1,050	389	420

Mission Director,
Pam White

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Mali
Program Title:	High Impact Health Services
Pillar:	Global Health
Strategic Objective:	688-006
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$14,838,000 CSH
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$14,230,000 CSH
Year of Initial Obligation:	2002
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2012

Summary: USAID's health program will increase access to and use of key health services: child survival; family planning/reproductive health; and HIV/AIDS. Funding will be used to expand access to HIV/AIDS prevention services and to continue surveillance activities, expand malaria prevention and treatment programs, reduce vitamin A and iron deficiency, increase immunization coverage, correctly manage diarrheal disease, and expand access to family planning and reproductive health services.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Improve Child Survival, Health and Nutrition (\$3,380,000 CSH). To address child mortality, USAID will target diarrheal disease, vaccine preventable deaths and nutrition. Diarrhea is among the top five causes of death in children under five, yet knowledge of how to prevent and treat diarrheal disease is low. USAID will launch a nation-wide multi-media campaign with prevention and treatment messages expected to reach over 500,000 families. Research has shown that achieving 80% coverage in vitamin A supplementation results in a significant decrease in child mortality. USAID will again support national level vitamin A distribution aimed to reach at least 80% of Malian children with 2 doses yearly. To increase immunization rates to 80%, USAID will continue to provide technical assistance and training to the Malian National Immunization Program and increase access to services through outreach activities. In 11 districts and two urban communes (covering 33% of the national population), USAID will continue to provide intensive on-the-ground assistance to increase outreach, improve facility-based services and improve household health behaviors. Over the life of the project 225 health facilities will receive equipment, training and commodities, including approximately 30 health centers in the north of Mali, and 4,500 health workers will be trained to promote healthy household living practices. Principal contractors and grantees: Abt Associates, CARE, and Population Services International (primes); and IntrahHealth, Action Against Hunger, and Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs (subs).

Prevent and Control Infectious Diseases of Major Importance (\$2,425,000 CSH). Malaria is the number-one killer of children in Mali, and insecticide treated bednets (ITNs) have been shown to be the most cost-effective way to reduce malaria incidence. USAID will continue to support the national social marketing campaign to promote ITNs and the distribution of subsidized nets to pregnant women and children. Approximately 250,000 ITNs will be sold or distributed. Principal contractors and grantees: Population Services International, Netmark, and CARE (primes); and Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs, and Action Against Hunger (subs).

Reduce Unintended Pregnancy and Improve Healthy Reproductive Behavior (\$5,350,000 CSH). Two baseline surveys conducted in 2004 showed a contraceptive prevalence rate for modern methods of approximately 7%. Based on an annual population growth rate of 2.7%, Mali's current population will double by 2025 placing enormous demands on public services such as health and education. USAID will support a national family planning multi-media campaign including interventions at the national, regional and local levels. USAID will continue to support the social marketing of contraceptives; the initiation of community-based contraceptive distribution through the 4,500 USAID-trained village health workers; the training of over 300 providers from 225 district and local health facilities; information and education provision; and promotion of key policies. USAID will sponsor a study tour by seven male and female religious leaders from the north of Mali to Senegal and Morocco to learn about innovative approaches in

family planning advocacy with religious communities. Principal contractors and grantees: Abt Associates, CARE, Population Services International, The POLICY Project, and ACQUIRE (primes); and Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs, and Intra Health (subs).

Reduce Transmission and Impact of HIV/AIDS (\$3,683,000 CSH). While Mali's general population HIV prevalence remains low (1.7%, Mali Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 2001), prevalence in groups at higher risk (up to 31%) highlights the need to be vigilant. To prevent the HIV/AIDS epidemic from escalating, USAID will provide targeted behavior change programs emphasizing abstinence and fidelity to mobile populations in Mali including transport workers, street vendors, miners and seasonal workers. USAID will support surveillance activities through the bi-annual sero-surveillance survey. USAID will support voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) services in three sites and will provide technical assistance to VCT counselor training. Support to the condom social marketing program will continue through mass media promotion. USAID will support the National High Council for HIV/AIDS in the development of the national strategy 2005-2009. Principal grantees and agencies: Centers for Disease Control, Population Services International, and The POLICY Project (primes).

FY 2006 Program: Improve Child Survival, Health and Nutrition (\$3,830,000 CSH). USAID will continue with service delivery activities in 11 districts and two urban communes and central level technical assistance to the Ministry of Health. USAID will also support the 2006 Mali Demographic and Health Survey. Same implementers as FY 2005, plus Macro International.

Prevent and Control Infectious Diseases of Major Importance (\$1,150,000 CSH). USAID will continue to support ITN and re-treatment kit promotion and to provide central level technical assistance to the Ministry of Health. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Reduce Unintended Pregnancy and Improve Healthy Reproductive Behavior (\$5,350,000 CSH). USAID will continue providing training to community level providers in contraceptive logistics and quality reproductive health care and central level technical assistance to the Ministry of Health for the improvement of national service coverage. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Reduce Transmission and Impact of HIV/AIDS (\$3,900,000 CSH). USAID will continue to focus on prevention in high risk groups, policy, advocacy and surveillance. USAID will also provide support for the HIV sero-prevalence testing component of the DHS to be carried out in 2006. Same implementers as FY 2005, plus Macro International.

All family planning assistance agreements will incorporate clauses that implement the President's directive restoring the Mexico City Policy.

Performance and Results: This program has already achieved significant results. The ITN social marketing initiative built on solid FY 2003 results and achieved a cumulative total of more than 190,000 ITNs sold and distributed by the end of FY 2004. Introduced this year as a complement to ITN distribution was the sale and distribution of 234,958 ITN re-treatment kits. Since FY 2003 USAID has supported three vitamin A supplementation campaigns that have reached over 4,000,000 children. In FY 2004, USAID supported clinical family planning training of 102 master trainers and 141 trainers of trainers who will work with local health workers and community agents in FY 2005. Technical assistance provided to the Mali Country Coordinating Mechanism for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria resulted in the approval of the Mali HIV proposal for \$54 million in June 2004.

Through this program, USAID anticipates achieving a minimum of 80% vitamin A coverage of children and will also increase immunization rates to 80%. USAID will increase the percentage of women and children sleeping under ITNs in project districts. The HIV/AIDS prevention activities will focus on high-risk groups and will promote safer behaviors within these groups. Women will have increased access to family planning and reproductive health services and use of modern contraceptives will increase.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Mali

	CSH	DA
688-006 High Impact Health Services		
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	20,759	200
Expenditures	1,367	0
Unliquidated	19,392	200
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	13,550	0
Expenditures	14,555	0
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	34,309	200
Expenditures	15,922	0
Unliquidated	18,387	200
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	14,838	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	14,838	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	14,230	0
Future Obligations	66,939	750
Est. Total Cost	130,316	950

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Mali
Program Title:	Improving Quality of Basic Education
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	688-007
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$5,301,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$4,261,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2002
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2012

Summary: Mali's primary school enrollment rate has traditionally been among the lowest in Africa and the world, particularly for girls. To address this problem, in the mid-90s USAID pioneered a program of community owned and managed primary schools to increase access to primary education in remote rural areas of Mali, places where the Malian government could not afford to build schools. Over a seven-year period USAID built 1,740 community schools. Other donors followed suit adding another 817 schools, greatly expanding access to education. Enrollment grew from 39% in 1995 to 71% in 2003. As significant, while only one-third of students attending school were girls in 1995, 43% of primary school students were girls in 2003, narrowing the gender gap significantly. Mali's Ministry of Education and donor partners, including USAID, reviewed progress in achieving education for all children and decided that to encourage more children to enroll in school, as well as keep children in school, attention must now be focused on the quality of instruction. Therefore, USAID's program focuses on improving the quality of Mali's education system through teacher training; assistance to improve national primary school curriculum; mobilization of communities to manage and advocate more effectively for public schools, community schools and Islamic schools; scholarships for 5,000 disadvantaged girls each year through the President's Africa Education Initiative (AEI); adult literacy; and reinforcement of management skills for local control of schooling.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Improve Quality of Workforce (\$1,700,000 DA). Mali is experiencing a severe teacher shortage, needing 2,500 more new teachers each year to meet the current demand. Most teachers enter the classroom without any formal training, many with only a ninth grade education. To help remedy the situation, USAID will expand its teacher training program in order to reach approximately 4,600 teachers from 800 public schools, community schools, and Islamic schools using a more cost-efficient school-based training model. USAID will focus on upgrading teachers' ability to perform so that the curriculum is taught using modern, interactive techniques. School directors will be trained to play a leadership role in improving teacher performance. USAID will continue to support a teacher training program via radio, giving practical activities and solutions so that school lessons become immediately useful in the African village, not just obscure, rote repetition and memorization exercises. Interactive media centers which will bring a wealth of information to students and teachers through the internet will be created in six teacher training colleges serving 2,800 students. The radio education and media centers will be made possible through funds from the AEI. Principal contractors and grantees: World Education and Education Development Center (primes); and World Learning, Stewart International, DevTech Systems, and Academy for Educational Development (subs).

Improve the Quality of Basic Education (\$3,601,000 DA). In a study done in 2000, most girls in Mali said they dropped out of school because they were not learning anything. Realizing that Western texts meant little to Malian children, the Government of Mali has been involved in developing a curriculum that draws on every day life in Mali for material. USAID will support this effort by providing expertise to the Ministry of Education in mathematics, science and life skills, with attention to the special learning needs of girls, for development of a curriculum and relevant learning materials that encourage more active, student-centered teaching. Assistance given in achievement testing piloted in the FY 2004 program will continue, furthering the Malian Government's ability to track system-wide progress in reading and mathematics.

USAID will also focus on assuring that 800 schools meet established criteria for “effective,” well-functioning schools through management training programs focused on school improvement plans and monitoring student and teacher performance. USAID will build upon previous successes in assisting communities to advocate for increased services and resources. Support to 200 adult literacy centers offering courses that address development issues will be expanded. These literacy programs will not only create a base of literate adults in villages, but will also pass on practical information that can lead to behavior change. For example, mothers will be taught the importance of using bednets to protect their children from malaria. Through the President’s Africa Education Initiative, USAID will provide 5,000 scholarships to disadvantaged girls in the north of Mali where girls’ attendance in school remains low. USAID will continue to improve education planning at the regional level. Training will be consolidated in 16 regional offices to assure that priority setting, in terms of hiring new teachers or constructing new schools, reflects analysis of education statistics and budget projections. Monitoring the impact of educational investments will be reinforced. Principal contractors and grantees: World Education and Academy for Educational Development (primes); and World Learning, Stewart International, and DevTech Systems (subs).

FY 2006 Program: Improve Quality of Workforce (\$1,261,000 DA). USAID plans to intensify its teacher training assistance, focusing on quality performance by teachers and school directors. Educators will continue to be trained at the school level so that local realities can be taken into account and teacher time away from school is minimized. USAID intends to use lessons learned from its pilot program of integrating Islamic schools into the Malian teacher training system in order to expand the number of Islamic schools offering high quality education. The radio education program may expand to nationwide coverage. Students at six teacher training colleges will be trained to use the Internet to assist in their classroom teaching. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Improve the Quality of Basic Education (\$3,000,000 DA). USAID intends to continue supporting the nationwide implementation of Mali’s new primary school curriculum. Resources may be used to continue assistance in the establishment and use of a student achievement testing system aligned with the new curriculum. USAID plans to reinforce assistance to 800 schools in meeting established criteria for “effective,” well-functioning schools through management training programs that allow parents to monitor and improve school performance. USAID will seek to expand its assistance beyond regional education offices to local school administration offices for improved planning and monitoring of school performance. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Performance and Results: Since the start of USAID’s education program, four major results have been achieved to date: 1) 7,100 teachers and administrators have been trained in the use of Mali’s new primary school curriculum, bilingual education and child-centered teaching methods have been partially funded through the President’s African Education Initiative; 2) 405 schools were regrouped into clusters of public, community and Islamic schools to begin a new school-based teacher training program that promises to be more cost-efficient and effective than the traditional training in workshops; 3) Mali’s first achievement test to measure progress in mathematics and French was piloted to allow the Ministry of Education to assess student competencies; and 4) over 160,000 textbooks were distributed to students.

USAID anticipates that over 4,700 teachers will receive on-going, systematic teacher training and support, and a radio teacher education program will reach 85% of Malian teachers. As a result, USAID expects over 70% of sixth grade children attending USAID-supported schools to pass their 7th grade entrance exam. In addition, all 15 of the Ministry of Education’s regional offices will be using education data to set goals and targets and will make financial decisions accordingly. Finally, in USAID-supported schools, over 80% of the parents and communities will be shouldering a portion of the financial responsibility for operating primary schools and at least 60% will be able to advocate effectively for materials and services for their schools, such as textbooks, teacher training, or teachers’ salary payments. In 2007, enrollment should rise to 80%.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Mali

	DA	ESF
688-007 Improving Quality of Basic Education		
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	10,690	50
Expenditures	604	0
Unliquidated	10,086	50
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	6,455	0
Expenditures	5,201	5
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	17,145	50
Expenditures	5,805	5
Unliquidated	11,340	45
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	5,301	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	5,301	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	4,261	0
Future Obligations	36,933	0
Est. Total Cost	63,640	50

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Mali
Program Title:	Shared Governance Through Decentralization
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	688-008
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$500,000 CSH; \$2,646,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$200,000 CSH; \$3,350,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2002
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2012

Summary: Over the past 10 years the Government of Mali has focused on moving resources and responsibilities to the lowest governmental level, with mixed success. To assist with this effort, USAID/Mali's Democratic Governance program focuses on transparent local governance through citizen partnerships with elected officials, civil society and the private sector in 250 of 703 localities. Activities promote citizen participation, provide local governments with skills for transparent budget management, identify and help remove regulatory constraints hampering citizen control of health, education and other services, and empower rural women to participate fully in political life and public decision making in their communities.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$1,660,000 DA; \$500,000 CSH). Elected officials and public administrators at the local level are lacking in basic governance skills and do not have the capacity to fully assume their responsibilities as managers of municipal government. Therefore USAID will train and mentor 250 targeted local governments to improve their ability to manage resources and assume responsibilities for service delivery. In addition, USAID activities will focus on helping communities prepare five-year development plans for improved local health and education services, increased income through environmentally sound agricultural practices, peaceful resolution of conflict, increased knowledge of citizens' rights and responsibilities, and sanitation and waste management to improve community health. As a result, ordinary citizens will increasingly work with local governments, forming partnerships to improve their communities, and reaching up to 5.9 million Malian villagers. USAID will assist more than 5,000 locally elected officials, government accountants and treasury agents involved in local financial management in the 250 localities, mentoring them in the work place. As a result, local officials will transparently manage scarce resources for health, education and other services. Principal contractors: Management Systems International (prime); and CARE, Save the Children, and International Resources Group (subs).

Strengthen Democratic National Governance Institutions (\$200,000 DA). Although the legal code is in place, the Malian government has not yet transferred the necessary resources for municipal services to elected local government as central government authorities fear the loss of power and control. Unfortunately, national institutions representing local government in Mali lack the skills to rectify this situation. Therefore, USAID will target key institutional partners at the national level to build capacity, encourage dialogue and provide them with advocacy skills to address the transfer of authority and resources for health, education and potable water from the central state to local governments. Concurrently, the High Council of Local Governments and the Malian Association of Municipalities will seek to revise legislation or enact new laws as needed. Principal contractors and grantees: Management Systems International (prime); CARE, Save the Children, and International Resources Group (subs).

Strengthen Civil Society (\$786,000 DA). Women are underrepresented in public meetings and community decision making across Mali and are often afraid of speaking publicly. At the same time, women's participation ensures that communities direct scarce resources into essential community services. USAID will train 42 women councilors elected in 2004 in their roles and responsibilities as members of local government. USAID will develop income generating activities and increase access to micro-credit

enabling women's groups to support improved health and education services. Women's groups will be trained in leadership, public speaking, advocacy, conflict resolution, negotiation techniques, marketing and business skills. Civic education campaigns will be conducted via community radio stations. As a result of this activity, more elected women will effectively carry out their roles as councilors in local government and an increasing number of women will compete for leadership positions on local committees managing basic services like health, education, potable water and waste management. The distribution of 446 more radios will ensure 17,000 additional women in north and central Mali will have access to information on their rights. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

FY 2006 Program: Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$2,258,000 DA; \$200,000 CSH). USAID aims to consolidate progress with 250 targeted local governments and expand to the fundamentalist-affected north, if practicable. Locally elected officials will improve conflict mitigation in their communities, increase natural resource management and foster sustainable economic growth. USAID plans to help improve local government accounting and tax collection systems, increase anti-corruption awareness and support resource mobilization through municipal bonds and public-private partnerships for capital investments. These activities will support local services such as health, education, potable water and waste management. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Strengthen Democratic National Governance Institutions (\$218,000 DA). USAID intends to support the High Council and Association of Municipalities to lobby national institutions for decentralization of budgets to the local level. Training in advocacy, the design and implementation of media campaigns, strategy development and negotiation skills will contribute to changes in the national legal framework, leading to improved local social services. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Strengthen Civil Society (\$874,000 DA). USAID plans to assist additional women's groups to develop income-generating activities and to access micro-credit. Elected women councilors will act as role models and trainers to encourage other women to take active public roles. Professional women's national organizations will receive training to advocate for public services. National NGOs will provide gender training to USAID partners, simultaneously building gender awareness and NGO capacity. If practicable, USAID would like to expand training to empower women in the north of Mali whose lives are increasingly affected by the rise of Islamic fundamentalism. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Performance and Results: USAID has established a solid foundation for the Democratic Governance program. Fifteen local NGO partners assessed 73 local governments, holding meetings with more than 4,000 key stakeholders, resulting in improved communication by newly elected officials and increased citizen understanding of the importance of tax payment to support health, education and other services, which will ultimately affect the lives of 2.2 million citizens. USAID surveyed more than 100 officials from 18 local governments on the relevance of existing financial management procedures, resulting in USAID-German collaborative development of simplified procedures, laying the foundation for local management of central funds for public services. A survey identified key national institutions capable of lobbying for local government improvements. Under a pilot program in 16 localities, 42 women councilors were elected, nearly doubling the previous number of elected women, 2.5 times the national average for female representation. USAID distributed 500 radio receivers to 400 women's listening groups, providing up to 20,000 women with access to information.

By the end of USAID's strategy, 188 local governments will design their development plans and budgets in a participatory manner, increasing local resources and managing them more efficiently. Health, education and other local services will improve through private sector and civil society alliances jointly carrying out development interventions and resolving local conflicts peacefully. It is anticipated that local elections will be more open, fair and transparent and the number of women holding and retaining positions in local government and civil society organizations will increase notably.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Mali

688-008 Shared Governance Through Decentralization	CSH	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2003			
Obligations	0	6,328	300
Expenditures	0	36	0
Unliquidated	0	6,292	300
Fiscal Year 2004			
Obligations	300	3,966	0
Expenditures	0	4,838	235
Through September 30, 2004			
Obligations	300	10,294	300
Expenditures	0	4,874	235
Unliquidated	300	5,420	65
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	0	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA			
Obligations	500	2,646	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005			
Obligations	500	2,646	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA			
Obligations	200	3,350	0
Future Obligations	1,800	30,864	0
Est. Total Cost	2,800	47,154	300

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Mali
Program Title:	Accelerated Economic Growth
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	688-009
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$10,228,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$12,762,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2002
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2012

Summary: USAID will strengthen agricultural sector growth by targeting commodities for which Mali has a comparative advantage. Farmers will be given the tools necessary, including biotechnology, to dramatically increase productivity. This coupled with a focus on improving competitiveness of targeted commodities will result in farmers having more disposable income. The program will work to reinforce the Malian private sector by improving the management of agribusinesses and strengthening microfinance institutions. The country's ability to negotiate increasingly beneficial trade agreements will be reinforced through USAID's activities. The program supports the objectives of, and participates in, the President's Initiative to End Hunger in Africa and the Global Climate Change Initiative.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Increase Agricultural Productivity; Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$4,501,000 DA). The majority of farmers, who make up 80% of the Malian workforce, have incomes right at or below the poverty line of \$1,500 per year. USAID will focus on increasing small farmers' incomes and stimulating growth by producing specific commodities more efficiently. About 16,000 hectares of agricultural land in five regions of rural Mali will be provided with improved water management and irrigation infrastructure. An estimated rice yield increase of one to four metric tons per hectare is envisaged for an estimated 3,200 farm families. USAID will enhance animal nutrition through training for small-scale feed manufacturers in development of least cost, high quality, feed rations and by increasing private investment in the animal feed sector. The program will help Mali establish a regulatory framework that will permit Mali to take advantage of advances in biotechnology research. Community based natural resources management approaches to land use management will ensure sustainable increases in productivity and farmer incomes while conserving the natural resource base. USAID will support the implementation of a national food security strategy which is desperately needed due to wide distribution of vulnerable populations. Principal contractors and grantees: Cooperative League of the USA, Michigan State University, and Cornell University (primes); and Sheladia Associates Inc., Land O'Lakes, International Fertilizer Development Corporation, and Approtec (subs).

Increase Participation in Global Trade and Investment; Improve Economic Policy and Governance (\$3,602,000 DA). To date only about 10% of Malian agriculture products are exported, despite documented regional and international needs. USAID will expand market opportunities for Malian exporters, promote free trade practices and ensure more Malian products are exported to regional and international markets. USAID will work with 18 rice marketing associations representing a population of more than 20,000 people apprising them of regional market opportunities and building their capacity to assess market opportunities. Hundreds of mango and potato producers will be linked to exporters to tackle competitiveness constraints so that Malian mangos and potatoes can compete in regional markets. USAID will promote dialogue between the private and public sectors on policy and regulatory issues, and work to influence donor coordination and collaboration on product value chain development. USAID will also develop integrated economic development activities, melding aspects of production, trade and finance with special emphasis on opportunities in the northern part of Mali. USAID will support the expansion of an environmental toxicology laboratory which will play a major role in assuring the quality of agricultural product exports. Principal contractors and grantees: Chemonics International (prime); and Associates for International Resources Development, Geomar International, International Business

Initiatives, and CARE International (subs)

Strengthen Financial Sector's Contribution to Economic Growth; Increase Private Sector Growth (\$2,125,000 DA). Less than 5% of rural farmers have access to longer term (2-5 years) financing. To improve this, USAID will identify training opportunities in core business skills and assist financial institutions to analyze loan applications, especially for women's agricultural associations and small and medium enterprises. USAID will provide technical assistance to small-scale microfinance institutions (MFIs), MFI Networks, and commercial banking institutions to ensure that additional and longer term funding is available to producers. Emphasis on female customer-oriented services will increase women's access to financial services by approximately 12%, representing some 14,000 rural women. USAID will assist the Government of Mali to design a new investment promotion unit in order to make doing business in Mali more attractive and efficient. Principal contractors: Chemonics International (prime); and Weidemann Associates, Making Cents, Bankworld, and Enterprising Solutions (subs).

FY 2006 Program: Increase Agricultural Productivity; Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$5,892,000 DA). USAID intends to expand its efforts to increase the productivity of rice, horticulture crops, and livestock. USAID plans to increase investments in water management and irrigation, and support animal-feed production enterprises. Using funds from the President's Initiative to End Hunger in Africa, USAID will support the development of an improved seed distribution system, utilization of modern biotechnology tools, adaptive research on sustainable land and water management technologies. Support for training, education, and communication systems that provide vital agricultural information and statistics may be continued. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Increase Participation in Global Trade and Investment; Improve Economic Policy and Governance (\$3,562,000 DA). USAID's trade development program will continue activities initiated in earlier years. This will involve diversification of markets for targeted products, as well as strengthening the private sector's capacity to identify markets, negotiate contracts, and influence policies. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Strengthen Financial Sector's Contribution to Economic Growth (\$3,308,000 DA). Key activities started in FY 2005 are programmed to continue. Ten percent more small and medium-sized agribusinesses will have access to finance. Mali's new investment promotion agency will be able to attract overseas investment to key sectors of the economy. Microfinance institutions will receive continued assistance, especially in the north of Mali, and should demonstrate self-sufficiency. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Performance and Results: As a result of USAID assistance in the trade sector, mango exports have risen from 1,151 metric tons to 2,368 metric tons. Thirteen exporters participated in the 2004 mango export campaign, including six new entrants. USAID completed an irrigation project affecting 13 villages and 18,510 inhabitants, which is expected to increase the production of rice and vegetables on 960 hectares of land. USAID installed 10 pilot solar water pumps providing clean drinking water and dual use small-scale irrigation capability, especially for women market gardeners, to approximately 10,500 people in 10 rural villages of Mali. USAID training of 102 agro-entrepreneurs (54 of whom were women) resulted in 65 financial business plans ready for investment review. Targeting recruitment efforts increased women's participation in MFI networks by approximately 14,000 additional members. A Development Credit Authority agreement with a local bank resulted in loan disbursements of \$350,000 for a new leather tannery which will provide thousands of jobs and increase exports.

By the end of the strategy more farmers will use improved natural resource management practices, leading to an increase in the use of environmentally safe technologies for crop production and processing. Horticultural crop production will increase by 2,400 metric tons representing increased incomes of \$2.3 million per year. At least 50% of Malian farmers will have increased incomes over and above the current poverty level of less than one dollar per day.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Mali

688-009 Accelerated Economic Growth	DA
Through September 30, 2003	
Obligations	18,471
Expenditures	320
Unliquidated	18,151
Fiscal Year 2004	
Obligations	14,216
Expenditures	13,164
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	32,687
Expenditures	13,484
Unliquidated	19,203
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA	
Obligations	10,228
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	10,228
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	12,762
Future Obligations	85,112
Est. Total Cost	140,789

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Mali
Program Title:	Communications for Development
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	688-010
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$417,000 CSH; \$389,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$150,000 CSH; \$420,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2002
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2007

Summary: Mali is one of the world's most information-deprived countries, with virtually no libraries, a largely illiterate population, and only a nascent information technology infrastructure. Yet, access to information is critical to Mali's development. This special objective is designed to make it easier for Malians to get access to information. The program will use every communication method available from windup radios to WorldSpace satellites to get Malians the information they need to improve the quality of their lives. The program improved the quality of information available on development-related topics; promotes alliances and partnerships between Malian institutions and international information technology firms; and reduces regulatory and policy constraints on information access. Cross-cutting by design, the program reinforces the impact of USAID's activities in health, education, agriculture, the environment and democracy.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Expand and Improve Access to Economic and Social Infrastructure (\$250,000 DA, \$200,000 CSH). Malians need information on a wide range of topics to make informed decisions and to lead healthier and more productive lives. To provide this information, USAID is using Mali's network of 146 private and eight public radio stations (the largest number of any African nation) to produce and broadcast over 250 radio programs, and to train at least 100 radio producers in the design and production of radio messages. In addition, USAID support will enable the creation and exchange of development information through 13 pilot Community Learning and Information Centers (CLICs), which will offer access to the Internet, email, CD-ROMs, video programming and general computer use to potentially over 450,000 Malians in local communities. USAID will also provide support to the Ministry of Communications and the newly-created Telecommunications Regulatory Agency for establishing policies on the use of information technologies. Principal grantees: Academy for Educational Development, Helen Keller International, and the Geekcorps Division of the International Executive Service Corps (primes).

Reduce Trafficking in Persons; Reduce transmission and impact of HIV/AIDS (\$75,000 DA, \$217,000 CSH). Malian children are being exploited to work as forced laborers in neighboring countries, usually in extremely harsh and unhealthy conditions. To address this problem, USAID has launched an activity that produces an informative and often humorous soap opera to help reduce child trafficking and HIV infection rates through messages transmitted in a weekly radio program. The weekly program is devoted to child trafficking and child welfare issues such as nutrition, immunization, malaria prevention, reproductive health and family planning, and HIV/AIDS. It will be broadcast over 94 private and public FM radio stations in local languages, and reach a potential audience of about 9.6 million Malians (as well as several million people in Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire as well). This activity will reduce trafficking between Mali and neighboring Côte d'Ivoire and will increase awareness and knowledge of children's health and welfare issues. Principal grantee: Population Media Center (prime).

Support Peace Processes (\$64,000 DA). Radio is the single best instrument for reaching people in the remote, increasing fundamentalist and often conflict-laden northern parts of Mali. Ten FM community radio stations and one AM station will be established which will make information available to an estimated 1.4 million people in Mali's northern regions. The AM radio station will also cover several hundred thousand people in Mauritania and Niger since AM radio signals propagate over large areas.

USAID will provide training for radio staff in how to use radio for conflict early warning, prevention and mitigation in northern Mali. Principal grantee: Africare (prime).

FY 2006 Program: Expand and Improve Access to Economic and Social Infrastructure (\$420,000 DA). The activities planned for FY 2006 are cross-cutting in nature and will have a positive impact on the Mali program. USAID intends to continue developing informational content and materials, and will use other emerging information and communications technologies to reinforce linkages among radio stations. Radio messages on health, education, democratic governance, the environment and economic growth issues will be broadcast, and their impact will be measured through surveys. USAID plans to connect selected radio stations to the Internet and to develop additional programming on women's issues. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Reduce Trafficking in Persons; Reduce transmission and impact of HIV/AIDS (\$150,000 CSH). USAID plans for the radio soap opera to continue to address child trafficking and child welfare issues. Same implementer as FY 2005.

Performance and Results: The main elements of the Communications for Development program are in place: the 13 CLICs have been built, are operational and are now focused on providing cutting-edge information technologies to its users. Efforts to make the CLICs self-sustaining are underway. USAID's partners provide content and multimedia materials that will enhance the CLICs' usefulness and offer a wide range of information packages. The introduction of wireless technologies continues to progress. New technologies have been field tested, and linkages between the Internet, radio stations, CLICs and other partners have been set up at several locations. These linkages extend the information available on the web, to rural populations including at least ten radio stations and up to 40 community telecenters, to those who would not otherwise have been physically, technologically or economically able to get access to this information. Eleven Malian primary, secondary and technical schools have received 220 refurbished computers and training in their use. Students and teachers are using this equipment as part of their educational curriculum.

USAID anticipates that over 1,000 radio programs will be broadcast on topics concerning health, child trafficking, education, democratic governance, microfinance and trade opportunities, sound environmental practices, and women's issues, among a host of other topics. At least 400 radio producers will be trained in the production of radio programs on development-related topics. At least 20% of Mali's private radio stations will have access to the Internet. A minimum of 60 CLICs (13 funded by USAID) will provide a wealth of information to over 750,000 people and will generate sufficient revenue to cover all of their operating costs. Over 800 people throughout Mali's eight regions will be trained in how to use the Internet and Internet access points will be available in most Malian cities and towns with a population of over 5,000 people. Mali's telecommunications policy environment will be favorable to private-sector investments, which will allow full and open access to information to continue in a regulated but non-restrictive manner.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Mali

	CSH	DA
688-010 Communications for Development		
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	50	2,100
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	50	2,100
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	350	2,375
Expenditures	107	1,493
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	400	4,475
Expenditures	107	1,493
Unliquidated	293	2,982
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	417	389
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	417	389
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	150	420
Future Obligations	0	130
Est. Total Cost	967	5,414